

COUNTRY Poland Approved For Release 2001/11/21 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000500TOPIC Liegnitz (Legnica) Airfield

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1ADATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1CDATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 9 February 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - one sketch on ditto

REMARKS _____

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1. Liegnitz Airfield (O 52/B 82) is located on the southeastern outskirts of the town. From the north, ul. Swerczewskiego leads to the installation. The western and southern borders of the field were surrounded by a fence 1.5 meters high. A spur track extended from ul. Jaworcyrska in an eastern direction to the southern edge of the field. At 10:30 a.m. on 9 November 1952, source observed no construction work at the installation nor runways, taxiways and aircraft revetments. The field had a grass cover. ¹ The field was 1,300 meters from east to west and 1,000 meters from north to south. Installations seen on the northern boundary of the field from west to east included a guardhouse; a hangar; a three-story building, 80 x 20 meters, with yellow-grey plaster, a flat roof with a rectangular superstructure of trellis work, about 200 x 80 cm, equipped with antenna rods and meteorological instruments; three hangars, the easternmost of which was about 90 x 40 x 20 meters and had a vaulted roof. ² The other three hangars measured about 70 x 30 x 12 meters and had flat roofs. Six three-story buildings covering an area of about 60 x 18 meters and occupied by Soviet Air Force soldiers were observed north of the western hangar. North of these buildings was a barracks installation surrounded by a brick wall two meters high. The installation quartered a Polish Air Force unit and was guarded by a Polish Air Force soldier armed with a submachine gun. No air force soldiers were seen in the city. Many Soviet and Polish soldiers were seen by source in ul. Swerczewskiego. ³
2. Aircraft observed by source included: 14 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes fitted with in-line engines, three-bladed metal propellers, single rudder assemblies, very large angular cabins with rectangular rear sections, weapons pointing to the rear and, antenna masts in the forward sections of the cabin. The planes, which were painted green and had red propeller hubs and Soviet insignia, were parked south of the guardhouse. About 80 aircraft were parked in two rows about 50 meters south of the hangars; the first row of 40 planes consisted of low-wing monoplanes fitted with two in-line engines, three-bladed metal propellers, double rudder assemblies, nose compartments with plexiglass bottoms, and cabins in line with the engines; no national insignia could be made out. The second row of 40 planes consisted of two types, i.e. twin-engine low-wing monoplanes fitted with radial engines, single but very high rudder assemblies, plexiglass noses, rounded wingtips and plexiglass tail-gun positions mounted in the second third of the fuselages. ⁴

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Two two-seater biplanes fitted with radial engines were seen crossing the field at an altitude of about 100 meters, about 30 meters apart from each other. They came in for a landing from the northwest and landed side by side with an interval of about 10 meters.

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Comment. The report fails to confirm previous information, according to which Liegnitz Airfield was enlarged toward the west.

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Comment. The purpose of the superstructure and the equipment cannot be determined from the vague information furnished by source.

3. Comment. The information on the layout of the buildings observed along the northern boundary of the installation agrees with previous reports.

However, the present report differs from the other reports as to the occupation of the buildings. Source reports that a Polish Air Force unit is stationed in the northern barracks installation. In the other reports it was reported that a Polish signal unit was quartered in these barracks.

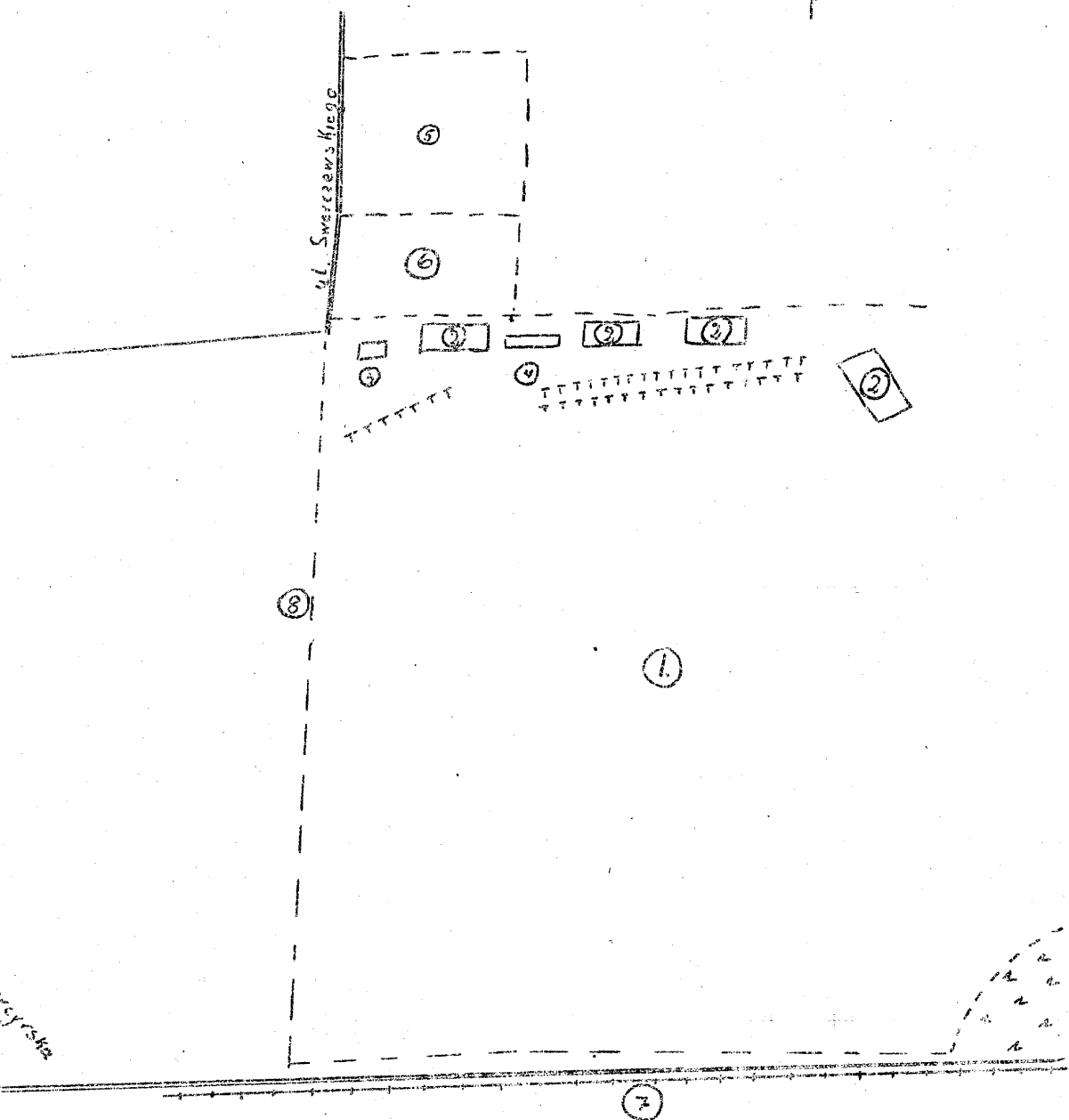
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4. Comment. The detailed description given by source indicates that 14 Il-10s, 40 Pe-2s and 40 A-20-Gs were stationed at the field. The 40 Pe-2s possibly belonged to a Polish bomber unit, while the 14 Il-10s and 40 A-20-Gs belonged to Soviet ground attack units.

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Liegnitz

Q. 1. *What is the purpose of the study?*



1. Landing field
2. Hangars
3. Guardhouse
4. Flight control station
5. Barracks area, occupied by Polish Air Force unit
6. Barracks area, occupied by Polish and Soviet Air Force units
7. Railroad line
8. Fence